

OIC appeals for Gulf peace talks

NICOSIA (AP) — The Secretary-General of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has appealed to Arab and Muslim states to negotiate a final settlement of the Gulf war. In a statement sent to Riyadh in Riyadh, Hamad Al Chabbi, secretary-general of the OIC, said the war has reached a point where a final settlement is the only way forward. "Today, I have to state my appreciation and impatience, shared by the whole Islamic World, at the slow progress being made in negotiations," Chabbi said. He said a recent peace initiative by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein revived hopes that the door to dialogue was not definitely closed. Hussein last Friday proposed that representatives of both nations meet in Baghdad and Tehran under U.N. auspices to reach a common understanding of U.N. Security Council Resolution 660. Resolution 660 calls for a complete withdrawal of troops to internationally recognised borders, exchange of prisoners and a commitment to double which side started the war. Iraqi Friday criticised Hussein's proposal calling it a propaganda play using all proposals finally wrapped.

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U.N. chief to meet Gorbachev

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar will visit Moscow next week for talks with President Mikhail Gorbachev and other Soviet leaders and to address an international forum on the environment and development, a U.N. spokesman said Tuesday. He will be in the Soviet capital from Jan. 15 to 17. It is not known when he will see Gorbachev and there is no fixed agenda for their meeting, the spokesman said. The Soviet Union in recent years has called for a greater role for the United Nations. Gorbachev addressed the U.N. General Assembly in December 1988 but cut short his visit because of a major earthquake in Soviet Armenia. Perez de Cuellar, who last visited Moscow in June 1987, will also address a group called the Global Forum on the environment and development. He returns to New York for a family gathering on Jan. 19 to celebrate his 70th birthday.

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Brief clashes erupt along Beirut's green line Inter-Shi'ite war 'near end'

BEIRUT (AP) — A Tehran mediator said the fight between rival Shi'ite Muslim militias for mastery of Lebanon's largest sect is nearing its end. Tuesday, while gunmen along the capital's warring line briefly traded shots. Police said no casualties were reported from the 10-minute exchange of gunfire and rocket-propelled grenades between Christian army units and Syrian-backed militiamen across the demarcation line.

But a police statement expressed alarm over the accelerating tempo of civil war since violence, saying four people were killed and 12 wounded in four days.

It was the heaviest toll since a ceasefire called by the Arab League on Sept. 22 halted six months of savage artillery duels between army Gen. Michel Aoun's troops and the Syrian army. That round killed 925 people and wounded 2,744.

Aoun's deputy foreign minister, Mohammad Ali Besharati said he fighting between the Tehran-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, and the Syrian-aligned Amal Movement in South Lebanon would stop soon.

"It is nearing its end. A ceasefire will be proclaimed soon and the warring factions will withdraw to their original lines," Besharati told reporters after a two-hour meeting in Muslim west Beirut with Amal chief Nabih Berri. Berri said he told Besharati that Amal would adhere to the ceasefire if Hezbollah agrees to withdraw from all territory it conquered during the previous 17 days of fighting in South Lebanon's Iqlim Al Tuffah.

Teheran Radio, monitored in Nicaragua, said the two sides had agreed to exchange prisoners at the same time as the withdrawal.

Hezbollah said in a statement it was ready to stop shooting and begin simultaneous talks for durable ceasefire that would "turn the guns against the Israeli enemy."

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Police said the truce held through Tuesday. The two factions have been vying for control of Lebanon's 1.2 million-strong Shi'ite community for more than two years.

Amal disclosed Tuesday that Sheikh Mohammad Sikiawi, a prominent Hezbollah cleric who defected to its ranks in South Lebanon's port city of Tyre last week, was Hezbollah's "naval operations commander."

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Al Hussein hopes world changes will have positive effect on Mideast peace

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday expressed hope that the current world changes and the trend towards world peace would favourably affect the Middle East region where peoples can benefit from a just and comprehensive peace to focus their efforts towards building a better future for the coming generations.

"But peace can not be achieved here at the expense of the rights and the lands of the Palestinian people and their legitimate representative, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)," King Hussein said at a meeting with a delegation representing the National Council of World Affairs Organisation and the United Nations Universities Association congregation in the United States.

"The PLO and the Palestinian people have offered all they could for the sake of reaching a just peace with Israel, but the Israeli leadership seems to be afraid of peace, and today, it has failed to respond to the Palestinian positive stand with a similar move that can give an impetus to the Middle East peace efforts," the King pointed out.

In reviewing the Middle East issue with the delegation, the King dwelt on the developments in the Palestinian problem, the situation in Lebanon and the Gulf, where the King stressed the need for a lasting peace between Iran and Iraq.

The meeting, at the Royal Court, was attended by Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Zaid Ben Shaker and the King's political advisor Adnan Abu Odh.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Washington next week, hopes that giving Palestinians some say over their affairs through elections would take the edge off the two-year Palestinian uprising in the territories which has claimed over 800 lives.

Only last week, administration officials sounded optimistic about the prospects of arranging a ministerial meeting in Washington between Baker, Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and his Egyptian counterpart Esam Abdel Meguid to decide the final details of the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue.

But State Department Spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said Monday that meeting was now in doubt.

"Obviously there is work to be done. It is absurd to have a meeting if the meeting produces nothing. You have to feel fairly confident that having a meeting is worthwhile, not just a meeting for meeting's sake," Tutwiler said.

Although administration officials have avoided blaming any party for the holdup, most analysts see Israel's right-wing Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir as the main stumbling block to progress. Shamir, backed up by his hard-line stance last week by banning several West Bank Palestinian leaders from travelling abroad, a move condemned by the United States as sending the wrong signal to Palestinians interested in peace.

Several of those affected by the travel ban were seen as obvious candidates for inclusion in the Palestinian delegation.

Tutwiler called on Israel to review and reverse the banning orders.

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Baker losing hope for Mideast breakthrough

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has told a visiting foreign minister he is losing hope of achieving a breakthrough that would lead to Israeli-Palestinian peace talks and said he may soon drop his initiative, diplomatic sources said Tuesday.

The sources said Baker sounded very pessimistic on the Middle East in a private meeting with Norwegian Foreign Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik at the State Department Monday.

"It was very surprising and worrying," said one source present at the meeting.

"Bondevik urged Baker to persevere and said his initiative represented the only hope of progress but Baker said that with so many other things happening in the world, he might soon decide to devote all his time to areas where there was some hope of getting things done," the source said.

His account of the conversation was confirmed by others present at the meeting.

Baker put forward a five-point peace plan last October aimed at paving the way to what would be unprecedented direct talks between Israel and a Palestinian delegation on how to arrange elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

After weeks of laborious discussions, Israel and Egypt, which is acting on behalf of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), accepted the points but each attached certain, contradictory conditions.

Israel insisted on having a veto over members of the Palestinian delegation to the talks to minimise PLO influence. The PLO said it must name the delegates.

Baker, who will meet Israeli foreign ministers of Bulgaria and Turkey met in Kuwait Tuesday to discuss Bulgaria's minority Muslims, thousands of whom fled to Turkey last year to escape forced assimilation.

The Kuwaiti News Agency (KUNA) quoted diplomatic sources as saying Bulgaria's Boyko Dimitrov and Turkey's Mesut Yilmaz discussed ways of improving relations between their countries.

About 330,000 ethnic Turks fled Bulgaria last year because of the now discredited assimilation campaign of former Bulgarian leader Todor Zhivkov.

Bulgaria's new leaders have granted religious rights to the Muslims, sparking protests from Bulgarian nationalists.

KUNA gave few details of the foreign ministers' talks but said they agreed their deputies should meet in Ankara next month to iron out outstanding issues.

The Kuwait meeting was the second round of talks on the minority problem and the first since Zhivkov was ousted from power in November.

KUNA quoted Turkish diplomats as saying the issue had been solved by the new government's decision to allow freedom of worship.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad welcomed his guests at the Bayan Palace, 13 kilometres south of the city centre.

Arab states want good ties with East Europe

TUNIS (R) — Arab states said Tuesday they were anxious to preserve good relations with Eastern Europe and were confident newly free nations there would support freedom for the Palestinians.

Ambassadors from the Arab League member states met in Tunis at the request of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to discuss the effects change in Eastern Europe would have on the Arab World.

The Arabs are concerned the new governments may stop giving automatic diplomatic support to Arab causes at international meetings. Hungary has already restored relations with Israel and others are moving in the same direction.

A statement issued by the Arab League said the meeting "affirmed the determination of the Arab states to maintain the friendly relations which exist between the peoples of these (East European) states and the Arab nation."

"It expressed its conviction that peoples who rise up for their freedom and dignity will back the cause of freedom for the other peoples of the world, including the people of Palestine."

The ambassadors welcomed statements from Bucharest and Budapest denying media reports that Arab mercenaries had fought on the side of executed Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu.

The Arabs have blamed pro-Israeli forces of propagating the reports to damage Arab relations with Eastern Europe.

Meanwhile, Israel's drive to restore ties with Eastern Europe accelerated Monday with announcement of a visit by Hungarian prime minister and

Arab states want good ties with East Europe

moves toward full relations by Czechoslovakia and Poland.

Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn, on the second day of a three-day visit, said Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth would arrive in late February, the highest-level visit in more than 22 years from East European countries that severed ties in 1967.

Hungary became the first East European country to restore relations with Israel last September, and Poland said Monday it expected to resume ties with the Jewish state next month.

"I think that the restoration of diplomatic relations between Poland and Israel will take place at the end of the next month," Polish Foreign Minister spokesman Stefan Stankiewicz said.

"What is being discussed is the date and not the issue itself," he said in Warsaw.

Israel has worked for years to resume relations which East European countries broke off to show support for Arab nations in the 1967 Middle East war. Only maverick Romania maintained ties throughout the past 22 years.

But dramatic political upheavals in the Soviet Bloc have speeded the restoration of ties, with those countries furthest along in democratic reform being the first to improve relations.

"Hungary are the forerunners in Eastern Europe," said a Foreign Ministry official. "Many other countries are looking to see how things develop. We hope developments with Czechoslovakia will be as positive as with Hungary."

Israeli officials said there had been no contact with Bulgaria so far but there had been encouraging statements from officials in East Germany.

United States could break a deadlock in convening Israeli-Palestinian peace talks by clearly rejecting any role for the PLO

"We feel somewhat uneasy that there is a reticence on the part of the U.S. government to say clearly that the PLO will not be involved in that process. That would solve the issue totally," Director-General Yossi Ben-Aharon told reporters.

Israeli press reports quote U.S. officials as saying that there will be no PLO role in the talks "at the present stage." The reports say that Israel wants that qualifying phrase removed.

The U.S. State Department said Monday that Israel, Egypt and the United States were too far apart to call a meeting of their foreign ministers in Washington this month aimed at bringing about unprecedented Israeli-Palestinian talks.

"I think that the Americans have a problem of reconciling our position with that of the Egyptians," Ben-Aharon said.

"You will notice that they (the Americans) mention the word Palestinians, and that many a time it is synonymous with the PLO. If it is synonymous with the PLO, you have an obstacle. If it isn't, then we are in business," he said.

Ben-Aharon denied any suggestion of growing tensions with the United States, despite Washington's criticism of an Israeli travel ban imposed on Palestinian leaders from the occupied territories last week.

Strike marks 26th month of uprising; collaborator killed

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — A Palestinian woman was killed to death in the occupied Gaza Strip, and slogans that appeared on walls Tuesday accused her of collaborating with Israel.

Also, Tuesday, shops in the occupied territories were closed for a strike to mark the start of the 26th month of the Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule.

Also Tuesday, the army said it had killed a Palestinian militant who was shot in the West Bank near the Gaza Strip. The militant was one of about 180,000 students, will open Sunday, officials said.

The schools had been closed for a holiday break, and the Palestinian resistance efforts by the United Nations and other groups to resume classes earlier to make up for time lost last year during army-mandated closures.

The army closed elementary schools and high schools in the West Bank for much of the 1988-89 school year, contending they were organising points for the uprising.

Five universities and some technical schools have been closed since the start of the uprising on Dec. 8, 1987.

The woman killed in the southern Gaza town of Rafah was identified as Zifra Abu Libda, 36. Arab reports said masked Palestinians came into her home late Monday night and stabbed her repeatedly. They said slogans Tuesday on walls in Rafah accused her of collaboration.

The army confirmed the death and said police were investigating. Her death raised to 167 the number of Palestinians killed by fellow Arabs since the uprising. Most have been killed for either collaboration or involvement in drug and prostitution.

Some 646 Palestinians have been killed by Israelis during the rebellion. Mrs. Abu Libda was the second Palestinian killed for suspected collaboration this year despite a leaflet distributed in the West Bank in late December calling for restraint.

The leaflet, attributed to PLO leader Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatah faction, called for an end to killing without authorisation from the leadership.

Earlier warnings from the PLO-backed underground leadership of the uprising said suspected collaborators should be given an opportunity to repent and make amends before any killings were carried out.

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Turkey, Bulgaria discuss Muslim minority

KUWAIT (Agencies) — The foreign ministers of Bulgaria and Turkey met in Kuwait Tuesday to discuss Bulgaria's minority Muslims, thousands of whom fled to Turkey last year to escape forced assimilation.

The Kuwaiti News Agency (KUNA) quoted diplomatic sources as saying Bulgaria's Boyko Dimitrov and Turkey's Mesut Yilmaz discussed ways of improving relations between their countries.

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Ethnic Turkish immigrants say no rush to return to Bulgaria

EDIRNE, Turkey (AP) — Despite Bulgaria's decision to restore rights to its minority ethnic Turkish population, tens of thousands who fled to Turkey last year show no signs of returning home.

"The relaxation of restrictions in Bulgaria on the rights of the Turkish minority may eventually affect the situation, but we have seen no sign of it so far," said Unal Erkan, the governor of Edirne.

Most of the 320,000 ethnic Turks who streamed from Bulgaria to Turkey last summer appear to be watching and waiting to see if Bulgarian officials make good on their promise to end the forced assimilation campaign begun six years ago, said former Bulgarian Communist leader Todor Zhivkov.

Under that campaign, ethnic Turks had to change their Muslim names to Slavic ones and were forbidden to speak Turkish or practise Islamic rites. The new reform government announced on Dec. 29 — although still controversial in Bulgaria — would rescind the policy.

"The separation of Turk and Bulgarian and discrimination against us will never stop," said Firat Gogelci, a 34-year-old bus driver who took part in last summer's exodus and now lives in Edirne, a border town in western Turkey.

The Kapikule border gate in

Edirne was nearly deserted, with only a family of four waiting to depart.

It was a far cry from the scene last summer, when cars packed with possessions jammed the border gate after the Bulgarian government provided passports following bloody demonstrations for minority rights in May.

About 4,000 people were entering Turkey daily until the government in Ankara imposed a visa requirement in August to stem the tide. Thousands of ethnic Turks subsequently returned to their native land, citing a lack of housing and jobs in Turkey and separation from family members who had to wait a long time for visas.

By Monday, the returnees numbered 96,500, border officials said. But, they added, only about 100 were returning daily, compared with a 1,000 a month ago, and about 50 ethnic Turks were still coming in each day.

At the train station in Edirne, 20 ethnic Turks, most of them elderly, were waiting for the train to Bulgaria.

"This is no place for older people. I cannot enter any job, I am only free to enter the mosque," said Kadir Mehmet, 60.

Some said they were encouraged by the new Bulgarian government's reversal of the assimilation policy. Bulgarian authorities have promised to allow the minority of 1.5 million to use

their Muslim names and Turkish language and to practice Islam.

The policy change, however, has prompted protests and work stoppages in the country of nine million. The demonstrations are led by members of Bulgaria's Slavic majority suspicious of the loyalties of the ethnic Turks.

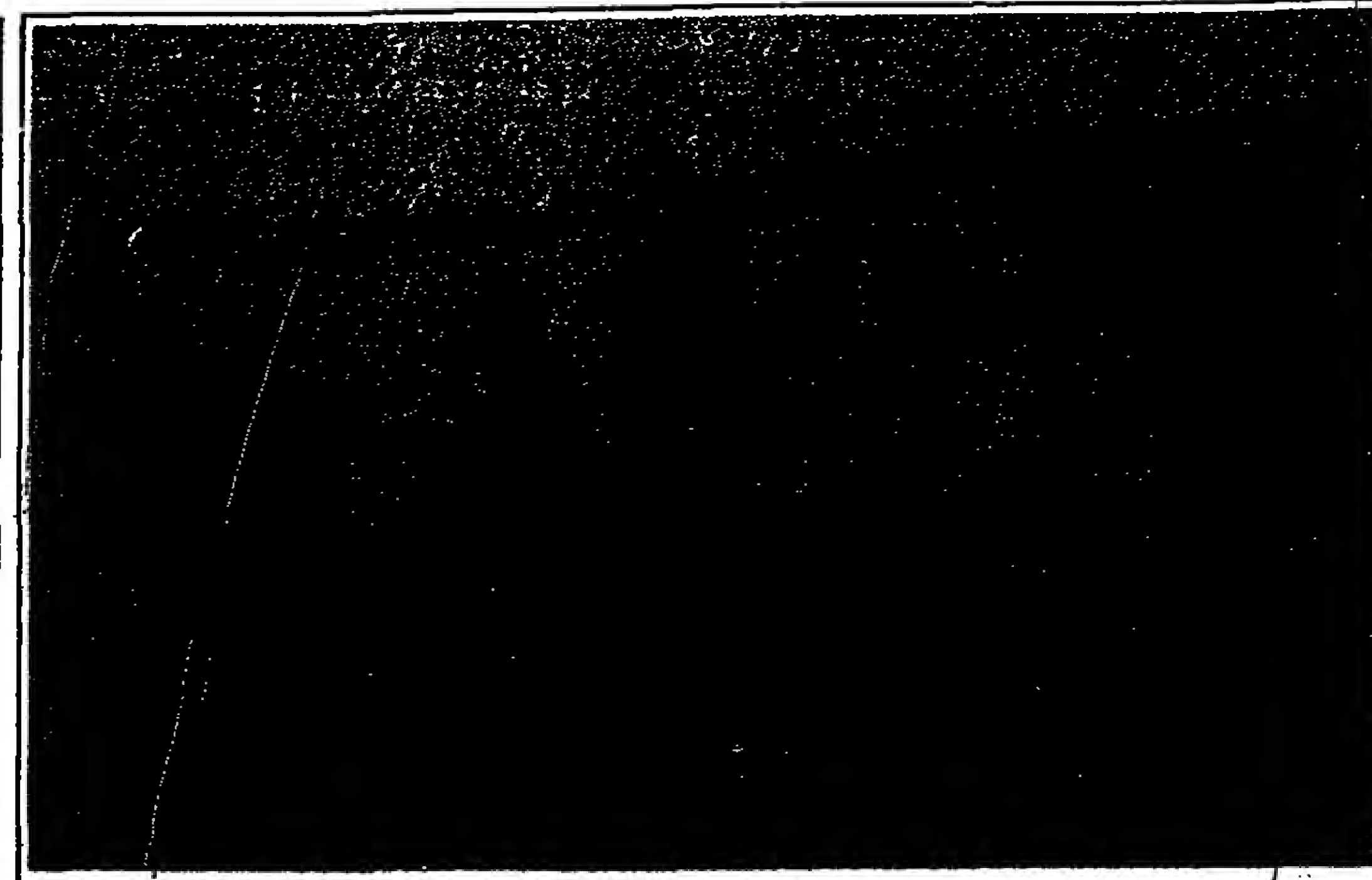
Since last summer, the immigrants have become settled in Turkey. In Edirne, the ethnic Turks have been moved from tents to small, prefabricated houses set up on a treeless, windswept lot. Despite the harsh living conditions, they appear determined to stay.

The rest of the immigrants have dispersed throughout Turkey, with about one-fourth of the group settling in the western city of Bursa and the second-largest group going to Istanbul.

Mehmet Erturk, a leader of the emigrant community in Bursa, said in a telephone interview that most ethnic Turks there did not believe the Bulgarian promises for the return of their ethnic and religious rights.

"This is only for show, people here believe," he said. "Also, those who could not manage here are gone and the rest are pretty well settled."

A retired professor of Balkan studies in Istanbul, Salih Bakici, said: "As long as the Communists are in power (in Bulgaria), we will never fully get back our rights."



ANTI-SLICK EFFORT: Moroccan workmen carry part of an inflatable oil boom on the Atlantic coast near the rich oyster lagoon of Oualidia after an Iranian tanker spilled 70,000 tonnes of crude oil into the sea in late December.

Families of ICRC hostages appeal for their freedom

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The visiting families of two kidnapped Swiss relief workers have appealed to their captors to "unlock your prison doors immediately" and set free their loved ones.

Elio Enriquez and Emmanuel Christen worked as orthopedic technicians at an international committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) clinic in South Lebanon's port city of Sidon 40 kilometres south of Beirut where they were kidnapped last Oct. 6.

"I appeal to you to unlock the door and allow them to come freely from Sidon to Beirut," Mrs. Mariam Christen said.

"I would like to tell my son how much we miss him and are looking forward to seeing him back among us," she added.

"I appeal to their captors to release them immediately because their seizure is harming thousands of people in need of their assistance," said Mrs. Graziella Enriquez.

The Sidon orthopedic centre was closed down immediately after their kidnapping.

Mrs. Christen said the families came to Beirut "to see the place Elio and Emmanuel loved, and lived in for the last two years and to meet the people who are doing their best to ensure their safe release."

Elio's twin sister Marie said

that "if Elio and Emmanuel can hear us, I want them to be courageous because they have lots of friends here and in Switzerland who have shown their support against this injustice."

The families were accompanied by Christophe Mariani, the ICRC official responsible for the Middle East desk, and Angelo Gnassendiger, general delegate for the Middle East and North Africa.

They held a one-hour press conference at the seaside Summerland hotel in west Beirut.

They displayed a petition calling for the two men's release, bearing 70,000 signatures collected by Swiss newspapers and a special support committee for the hostages.

Michel Dufour, head of the all-Swiss 29-member delegation in Lebanon, said more than 50,000 letters of sympathy had been received by the local delegation.

Dufour said the letters would be taken by the families back to Switzerland to "show Lebanese concern and consciousness towards our colleagues."

No group has claimed responsibility for kidnapping Christen, 32, and Enriquez, 23. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Sidon police say the pair are held by the Fatah Re-

volutionary Council, a breakaway guerrilla group led by Abu Nidal. The organisation has denied any responsibility.

Christen and Enriquez are among 18 westerners held hostage in Lebanon. The others are eight Americans, four Britons, two West Germans, an Irishman and an Italian.

The longest-held is U.S. journalist Terry A. Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent of the Associated Press. He was kidnapped March 16, 1965.

Hanisch, who attended the news conference at the Summerland hotel with the families, said ICRC officials had made several high-level contacts with Arab officials to try to get the hostages freed.

He said several governments in the region and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, whom ICRC officials met twice, told the humanitarian organisation they would do all they could to gain the captives' freedom.

He said the ICRC also contacted the Swiss government but it was not involved in any negotiations.

Colleagues of the hostages and a group of Lebanese handicapped also appealed for Christen and Enriquez to be freed "so that they could resume their humanitarian work in the country."

Czech delegation in Israel to discuss ties

TEL AVIV (R) — Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry officials arrived in Israel Tuesday for talks on renewing diplomatic ties cut by Prague during the 1967 Middle East war after similar moves by Hungary and Poland.

Israeli officials said the Czechoslovak delegation, headed by Foreign Ministry Director for Middle East Affairs Vazlav Jizny, was to meet Foreign Minister Moshe Arens Tuesday evening.

The visit came as Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn was on the final day of a three-day stay, the highest-ranking visit to Israel by an official of the Warsaw Pact states that broke relations in 1967.

Of the Soviet bloc states, only Romania maintained diplomatic ties during that period.

Horn said Monday Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth would visit Israel in late February, less than six months after Hungary became the first East European country to restore relations.

Israel was also moving towards full ties with Poland, with Israel Radio reporting Tuesday that Arens would go to Warsaw

next month to sign an agreement on resumption of relations.

The Israeli foreign ministry declined to confirm or deny the report, but Poland said Monday it expected relations to be restored in late February.

East Germany has also expressed willingness to establish relations for the first time with Israel, including accepting a share of responsibility for Germany's Nazi past and paying reparations to Holocaust survivors.

Israel has yet to respond. Israel has worked hardest at restoring ties with the Soviet Union, home to the largest group of Jews outside the United States and Israel.

The two countries have exchanged consular delegations but there is still no official discussion on full ties.

However, while the East European visits to Israel were underway, Israeli Science Minister Ezer Weizman was in Moscow this week on the highest-level visit since the Soviet Union orchestrated the cut in diplomatic relations.

Iran says international drug syndicate smashed

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian anti-narcotics agents smashed an international drug-trafficking ring in the country's western Bakhtar province, and arrested 14 smugglers with a small cache of arms, Tehran Radio reported Monday.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, said the network had been active in a number of countries, including Turkey, which borders Bakhtar.

The detained ring members admitted to smuggling more than 7,000 kilograms of opium and 800 kilograms of morphine, the radio said.

It added that efforts were underway to arrest other ring leaders still at large.

The Islamic Republic News Agency, also monitored in Nicosia, reported Monday that about 1,500 kilograms of narcotics were seized from drug traffickers in the past ten days.

IRNA quoted an unidentified official of the Islamic Revolutionary Committee, Iran's main law enforcement agency, as saying that 60 drug smugglers had been arrested in connection with the seizures.

Possession of even small quantities of drugs with intent to sell carries a mandatory death sentence under Iranian law.

Official media reports have said more than 1,000 convicts were hanged in Iran last year for drug-related offences.

But opposition and other independent groups maintain that many political prisoners were among those executed.

More than 50,000 drug addicts throughout the country have been sent to hard labour camps or are imprisoned.

IRNA reported the committee official as saying that of the 50,000 addicts, 19,000 were addicted to heroin.

France resumes grain shipments to Libya

PARIS (R) — France has resumed grain shipments to Libya in a sign of easing tension between the two countries, government sources said Monday.

Colonel Muammar Qadhafi's government severed shipping and communications links with France in early December in protest against Paris's immigration policies and its reluctance to deliver three Mirage fighter planes held in France since 1986.

"It's my understanding that grain shipments have started up again," an Agriculture Ministry official said.

A French Foreign Ministry spokesman said tele links between France and Libya were now functioning normally but telephone communications were still cut.

Political relations between the two countries, which have never been good, worsened in November when Qadhafi accused President Francois Mitterrand of oppressing Muslim immigrants.

Shortly after France revoked a decision to deliver three Mirage fighter planes to Libya.

The planes have been held back since 1986, when the European Community imposed sanctions against Libya because of its alleged involvement in terrorism.

Telephone and tele links were severed on Dec. 7, a day after direct traffic between French and Libyan ports was suspended.

The Libyan move jeopardised a French sale of 40,000 tonnes of barley worth 50 million francs (\$9 million).

A first shipment of the barley was delivered in late December, a grain trader said.

British Muslims on week-long protest against Rushdie book

LONDON (AP) — British Muslims have begun a week-long vigil outside the headquarters of Viking Penguin, publisher of "The Satanic Verses" while organisers appeared to distance themselves from the death threat against author Salman Rushdie.

At a news conference to announce the vigil, Mugharam Ali Ghamidi, chairman of the U.K. Action Committee on Islamic Affairs, said the demonstration was a reminder that the affair, begun with the book's publication in September 1988, was not over.

Muslims say "The Satanic Verses" blasphemes Islam by associating the Prophet Muhammad with prostitutes and suggesting the Koran was the Prophet's invention, not the work of God. On Feb. 14, 1989, the late Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini issued a religious edict calling on Muslims to kill Rushdie.

Khomeini's action drove the 42-year-old Indian-born writer into hiding and two Iranian clerics offered a bounty of \$5.2 mil-

lion for Rushdie's death.

"Since the sensationalism has receded what remains is a genuine and permanent bitterness in the hearts and minds of ordinary Muslims," Ghamidi said.

Although he warned that the bitterness would increase if the book were not withdrawn and other demands met, he and the U.K. Action Committee did not support the death threat.

We appeal all the time to Muslims in Britain to keep within the limits of the law," said Iqbal Saraceni, a convenor of the committee. "We will not condone any overstepping of the law."

The U.K. Action Committee, however, refused to condemn the death threat.

"It is naive to think that the world's one billion Muslims will not do anything or say anything to such vilifying insults," Ghamidi said.

Threats also were made to Viking Penguin. A police officer is on 24-hour duty outside and three security guards now watch over the headquarter's plush, entrance

hall, with its X-ray machine of the kind used for luggage at airports.

Publisher's spokesman Bob Gregory said there was no connection between the Muslim's vigil and publication of a paperback edition of "The Satanic Verses."

"There is no date set for publication of the paperback," Gregory said. "From that you cannot assume that a paperback version will be published or will not be published."

Ghamidi said Britain's 1.5 million Muslims want "the Satanic Verses" withdrawn from publication and Britain's blasphemy laws changed to incorporate other religions besides Christianity.

For the next five days, Muslims from across Britain will wear green plastic vests emblazoned with "British Muslims" in white lettering and hold handmade signs proclaiming "No Rushdie porn," "Hypocrisy in high places," and "Put honour back on the agenda" outside the Kensington, West London, Penguin offices.

No cut in U.S. aid to Israel, senator says

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — U.S. Senator Pete Wilson said Monday he foresaw no cut in Israeli military aid as a result of the easing of cold war tensions and tougher Soviet attitude about arms sales to Arab countries.

The Republican lawmaker, who is a candidate in the California gubernatorial race said there was a "little less generosity" on the part of the Soviets in offering discounts but no clear sign of a reduction in the level of arms sales.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, he said, "may be less willing that his predecessors to be involved in support of Arab states, but there doesn't seem to be any reduction in military sales."

He said the United States still needed its strategic relationship with Israel, which receives \$3 billion a year in U.S. grants, including \$1.8 billion for military use.

"I don't think... it yet indicates any change of circumstances that would warrant a reduction of our foreign assistance for Israel either in military or domestic (economic) aid," said Wilson.

"I don't think it will be right for the (strategic) relationship to be abandoned. I think it needs to be strengthened and expanded," he said.

Wilson, who met Monday with Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin and toured Israel aircraft industries, strongly endorsed the joint U.S.-Israel effort to develop the Arrow missile, a Star Wars project for an anti-missile defence system.

The \$60 million-a-year project, which will need U.S. approval to proceed towards a production phase, was needed "primarily because of the spread of missile capabilities throughout the Middle East," he said.

Wilson, the senior Republican on the Senate Armed Forces

Committee, said the project which he helped to initiate "getting somewhere and is ahead of schedule."

He declined to say if the aid missile was nearing a test firing but said that deployment was several years away.

The project could be endangered by cuts made to the U.S. deficit in line. The question is whether follow-on will be supported. I think it will be supported. I will support it strongly," he said.

Wilson said there was no question of support for Israel in Congress as a result of Israel's handling of the two-year Palestinian uprising.

But he accused the U.S. media of adopting a pro-Palestinian bias.

"I think the American public has probably been disoriented by the television network news, particularly," he said. "Do I think there is a pro-Palestinian bias in the media? Yes, I think there is."

As an example, he said, television reports on the uprising failed to note that Palestinian protests "are not spontaneous riots throwing by schoolboys but orchestrated by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)." The senator distributed a document accusing the PLO of trying to "manipulate and sacrifice" the youth of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to "damage Israel's image."

"The PLO and its sponsors seek to exploit the intifada, escalating violence and seeking to provoke an IDF (Israel defence force) reaction of 'excessive force' for the benefit of American TV network news audiences," he said.

Wilson, 56, on his fourth visit to Israel, said withdrawing Israel's "pre-1967 borders" would leave the Jewish state "dangerously vulnerable."

Iran leader bans attacks on regime

NICOSIA (R) — Supreme Iranian leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has banned malicious criticism of government officials as sinful and seditious.

Khamenei's injunction followed sharp criticism of the government in parliament and press for hosting Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu on the eve of his downfall last month.

"The key to the success of the executive, the judiciary and the legislature is their decisive backing by the nation," he said in a statement read Monday on Tehran Radio, monitored in Cyprus.

"Any act or word which weakens the people's trust in these powers and undermines their support in the least is (forbidden on religious grounds) and a national treason."

Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati was grilled in parliament

last week over the Ceausescu visit.

Khamenei decided attacks on the ministry as blows to men in the front lines of Iran's diplomatic war against a hostile world.

More than 200 legislators wrote him an open letter, renewing their allegiance to his position as supreme leader.

"Of course parliament should carry out its duties," Khamenei replied. "But both the deputies and the people are able to differentiate between actions stemming from legal duties and from personal and political intentions."

Hardliners have also criticised the economic policies of President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, saying a greater role for the private sector and foreign investment was needed to achieve the principles of social justice and independence.

Somali president dismisses cabinet ahead of reshuffle

MOGADISHU (R) — Somali President Mohammed Siad Barre has dismissed his government ahead of a cabinet reshuffle, state-run radio Mogadishu said Tuesday.

The radio quoted a brief statement from the presidency as saying a new government would be formed as soon as possible.

The presidential statement gave no reason for the aging strongman's decision to sack his entire cabinet.

Last Friday Ogadi, the official newspaper of the ruling Somali Socialist Revolutionary Party, called for the government to be dismissed "for failing to tackle the

country's economic and social problems."

Most traditional Western donors have suspended economic aid to Somalia, given by civil rights activists in protest against human rights abuses by government security forces and rampant corruption in the administration.

In an effort to end the war, Siad Barre has promised to restore multi-party democracy and hold fresh parliamentary elections by the end of 1990.

Generally believed to be in the late 70s or 80s, Siad Barre has announced any plans for his retirement after seizing power in a 1969 coup.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Korm
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children's programme
17:30 Educational programme
18:30 News summary in Arabic
18:45 Cairo news message
19:30 Local programme
20:30 News in Arabic
20:35 Arabic series
21:30 Arabic programme
22:40 News in English
23:40 "They Petra"

PROGRAMME TWO

18:40 Documentary
19:40 News in French
19:45 Varieties
19:50 News in Hebrew
20:30 Baby Boom
21:10 Heart of the Matter
22:40 News in English
23:40 Final Days

PRAYER TIMES

05:49 Fair
06:31 (Sunrise) Dula
11:39 Dush
14:24 'Ar
16:47 Maghreb
18:10 Zila

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swatish, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 637785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terzante Church Tel. 623366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 623383, Tel. 623543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775251
St. Epiphane Church Tel. 771751
Assam International Church Tel. 623541
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Tel. 815817, 64952

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will be partly cloudy with a chance for scattered local showers and winds will be northwesterly moderate, in Aqaba, winds will be northerly moder-

ate and seas calm.

Amman 2/11
Aqaba 7/19
Dagha 2/13
Jordan Valley 5/17

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 9, Aqaba 17. Humidity readings: Amman 60 per cent, Aqaba 42 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Ahmad Al Natour 633934
Dr. Issa Haddad 870707
Dr. Abdel Al Adhah 620307
Dr. Ahmad Othman 786384
Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Assem pharmacy 637035
Nisrallah pharmacy 620372
Al Salam pharmacy 636750
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shamsi pharmacy 637660

IBRD:
Dr. Issa Al Saleh (—)
Al Sarsa pharmacy (985238)

ZARQA:
Dr. Ziad Hawatneh (—)
Khalil pharmacy 985117

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 630341
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 89228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630221
Hotel Complaints 625000
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010290
Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623103
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 771111
Radio Jordan 680100
Water Authority 635615
Electric Power Company 636381

RJ Flight Information: 08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport: 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Finnish Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalil Maternity, J. Amn 644261/6
Al-Matn Maternity, J. Amn 644412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642662
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsi 644714
Shamsi Hospital 640131
University Hospital 667221/9
The Islamic, Abdali 661275/7
Al-Ahli, Abdali 641646
Islamic, Al-Muhajreen 77101/3
Al-Badr, J. Amman 775112/6
Army, Marja 891811/5
Queen Alia Hospital 62240/30
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)963323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Im Saia Hospital (09)966732
IBRD:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275535
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272725
Im Al Nafesa Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
07:00 Aqaba (RJ)
11:15 Rome (add.) (RJ)
11:20 Tunis, Chambless (RJ)
11:30 Riyadh (RJ)
11:40 London (RJ)
12:45 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:50 Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
12:55 Frankfurt (RJ)
13:00

Housing ministers to discuss cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ministers of public works and housing in the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) are due to open a meeting here Wednesday to discuss cooperation among the four countries based on a joint report by a technical team that met Sunday and Monday.

The technical team pooled together reports by technical committees working on consultancy and engineering firms operating in the four-member states, matters related to housing, unifying laws and legislations, training, unified specifications and standards for construction operations and other related topics.

Egyptian Minister of Reconstruction and Housing Hassan Ibrahim Kafrawi, who arrived in Amman Tuesday to take part in the meeting, said in a statement that Egypt, Jordan, Iraq and North Yemen were trying to pool their resources in one of the most important sectors leading to economic development.

The housing sector is considered as one of the main foci of the ACC which was set up last February to pave the ground for full integration among the four states, Kafrawi said.

He said apart from means of boosting cooperation in housing and public works and construction, the four ministers will focus attention on the establishment of a joint data bank to help the four states in this process.

Meanwhile, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Tuesday that the preparatory meeting conducted by technical committees had prepared the topics to be discussed at Wednesday's ministerial conference.

Nearly 71.5 per cent of the total number of visitors last year came from Arab countries, while 19.3 per cent came from Europe, 7.5 per cent from America and 1.7 per cent came from other countries like Japan, Australia and New Zealand, the minister said at a meeting with representatives of tourist offices in Jordan.

Kabarti reviewed cooperation between the ministry and the

Defeated candidates lose appeal

By Mariam M. Shalabi
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Two contesting candidates from the Ajloun district, who ran for seats in the Lower House of Parliament in the Nov. 8 elections, have lost their case with the Parliamentary Appeals Committee. Deputy and appeals committee member Faris Nabulsi confirmed Tuesday.

"The contestants Najib Elias Haddad and Farah Musa Rabadi could not provide sufficient evidence to prove their defeat to Ajloun parliamentarianism," Nabulsi said.

Another committee member commented that "We should not be talking about this until it goes to the speaker of the House and the House votes to agree on our decision." Deputy Nayef Hadid, head of the appeals committee told the Jordan Times. "This Thursday we will study the case of candidate Abu Akhu Isbeideh, who is contesting the seat he lost to Deputy Nawaf Khawaldeh of Mafrqa district," Hadid added.

While Hadid said that the House must first approve the committee's decision to dismiss the complaints of the two Ajloun candidates, Nabulsi said, "we made the decision already, the House will not

vote on it again." The appeals committee has heard the testimonies of the two contestants as well as talked to the responsible personnel in the Ajloun district. "We even went as far as bringing over the voting boxes and looked at the voting cards. We allowed Deputy Jamal Haddad to speak on his behalf as well, it was all very democratic and proper. Our job has ended, we have made our decision," Hadid said.

The Ajloun candidates had charged that errors in counting or administrative errors such as a misspelling of names had resulted in their loss in the Nov. 8 elections.

Clean-up campaign for airport road on the way

By Ehsa Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — A retired Jordanian army officer and writer will lead a campaign Thursday to clean up the highway to the Queen Abla International Airport and beyond, a distance of 80 kilometres.

Arslan Ramadan told the Jordan Times that the Ministry of Tourism, which will finance the campaign, will provide at least six small pick-up trucks and 12 workers for the job expected to last one whole day. Actually the campaign is to cover the whole highway extending from Amman to the port city of Aqaba, along the desert highway, but this is to be carried out in stages, Ramadan said.

Referring to the Dead Sea-Swemeh campaign, also carried out in the winter, he said that a lot of waste materials were collected since the area is visited by people in the winter leaving behind a lot of garbage and waste.

"In fact, the idea of cleaning up Jordan was the brainchild of Her Majesty Queen Noor who took part in a campaign to

clean the Jordan Valley's vacation spots," Ramadan said. "I was also commended by His Majesty King Hussein on my earlier campaigns to make Jordan clean," he added.

Ramadan said the waste is collected at a dumping ground along the way and parts of it is burnt while others are just kept and later buried.

Ramadan said he was encouraged to carry out the cleanliness campaigns on a voluntary basis when he approached government ministries asking for help and received favourable response.

He said that once when he was hunting in Jordan, he came upon garbage in huge quantities which marred the landscape and reflected a negative impression about the country. This prompted his later campaigns.

Ramadan has written several books published in Jordan including "The Jordanian Deserts" about the ancient castles there and Palestinian and Jordanian Heritage.

He said he is now writing a book entitled "Birds of Jordan", about 165 species of birds.

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Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Deputy Sheikh Abdul Mun'im Abu Zant look over parliament papers. Abu Zant did not give the prime minister's government a vote of confidence in the 3-day confidence session last week.

Badran thanks public for their support

Artists, musicians brief prime minister

AMMAN (Petra) — An outline of the work and programme of the Jordanian artists and musicians federations was presented Tuesday to Prime Minister Mudar Badran at a meeting held in his office and attended by Minister of Culture Khaled Al Karaki and members of the two federations.

Nearly 70 per cent of children's television series in the Arab World is produced in Jordan. The country is also the location for many Arabic television series involving Arab and Jordanian artists and actors, the prime minister was told at the meeting.

Badran paid tribute to the two federations' efforts and said that the government will provide all forms of cooperation to enable them to achieve their goals.

Special attention, however, should be given to Jordanian culture and heritage which could be reflected in local artistic work and

conveyed to the outside world, the prime minister said.

Badran also Tuesday received delegations representing various public sector groups. They congratulated him on his new position.

Less visits

Later the prime minister issued a statement intended to curb visits by delegations to the Prime Ministry to offer congratulations. He said in the statement that he was grateful to the public for their overwhelming support but he said that the government must be given the chance to conduct its business, and the prime minister must have time to visit various institutions and departments to follow up on work and "fulfil the government's programme as contained in its policy statement to Parliament."

Farmers successfully cultivate sugar cane

DEIR ALLA (J.T.) — Two Jordanian farmers have successfully cultivated sugar cane on 20 dunums of land in the Deir Alla district of the Jordan Valley and sold their output in the local market, according to a report by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Diyab Al Rabi and George Sido planted the sugar cane in October of 1988 and have just harvested their product and sold it to local food processing industries. They collected JD 350 for each dunum of land, Petra said.

Diyab said in a statement following the success of the new agricultural project that he imported the saplings from Egypt and planted them in deeply ploughed fields which were fertilised and irrigated continually around the year.

"Planting sugar cane is simple compared to other plants, but the disadvantage is that sugar cane

requires great quantities of water to grow and yield a good profit, Diyab said.

Director of the Agricultural Department in the region Mazen Khasawneh said that the Jordan Valley soil was quite suitable for growing sugar cane, beetroot and rice, and his department was encouraging local farmers to diversify their crops.

He said the local market needs sugar cane, but the disadvantage is the plant requires a great deal of irrigation.

Khasawneh pointed out that beetroots are even better suited to the Jordan Valley than sugar cane since the plant requires less water and yields 17 per cent sugar compared to seven per cent from the sugar cane.

The Deir Alla region is one of the most heavily cultivated areas in Jordan

Embroidery: A proud heritage, financial support for the family

AMMAN (J.T.) — For hundreds of years Palestinian women have practiced the art of embroidery, stitching complex and intricate patterns which are unique to their villages and passed down from generation to generation. The women carried this heritage with them from their homes in Beit Dajan, Doura, Safriyeh, and other villages to new communities to the east of the Jordan River during the exodus of Palestinians into Jordan during the 1948 and 1967 wars. Two of these refugee communities, Mahatta and Natheef, are the locus of a Save the Children women's health and income generation project currently employing more than 300 women.

In the past women embroidered traditional patterns on panels of fabric for the yokes, sleeves, and skirts of their dresses, as well as on pillows for their homes. Capitalising on the panel methodology traditionally used, Save the Children designers reasoned that an embroidered panel might as well be worked into quilts, or tote bags to appeal to larger markets and sell at higher prices per the amount of handwork required. Today with grant assistance from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in cooperation with the Noor Al Hussein Foundation and the Ministry of Social Development, Save the Children is helping the women of Mahatta and Natheef to develop profitable, market oriented businesses that produce eight hand crafted products, deliver frozen appetisers to local supermarkets, and make pure olive oil soap.

The quilts, which may be ordered with matching pillows in a range of colours and designs, have been selling well at the Bridal Chest at Kan Zaman, where craft workshops and traditional restaurants are housed under the vaulted arches of a restored rural village. Marketed under the Jordan River Designs logo, the Palestinian quilts coordinate with the Beni Hamida carpets woven by Bedouin women working with Save the Children's first home-based and also USAID-supported income generation project. With sales increasing and more women interested in work with the project, Save the Children recruited John Wrightson, an International Executive Service Corps (IESC) volunteer to consult on improving production techniques, assessing marketing strategies, and strengthening administrative procedures such as inventory control and cost accounting. Prior to his retirement, Wrightson founded and managed two multi-million dollar quilt making businesses in the north-eastern United States.

During two months' work with the project, Wrightson personally helped to build fab-

ric storage bins at the Natheef centre and has recommended that raw materials inventory be kept to around 25 per cent of projected annual production. His advice to reduce the amount of stuffing material in the quilts has been implemented with the result that the quilts are lighter — more comfortable in this climate, and easier to handle and to clean. Using less filling also reduces the cost of production.

For exporting to the United States, Wrightson suggested Jordan River Designs seek an arrangement with a U.S. firm whereby quilt tops are shipped and the filling and quilting done by the U.S. firm after arrival. This reduces the weight and space requirements for export and facilitates compliance with U.S. regulations for filling materials. Wrightson supervised the first production in Jordan of his design, the snug sack, which is being widely advertised as a way to keep warm in chilly houses. Just one week after the product's introduction at the American Women's Bazaar, Save the Children received a large order from Safeway which will be marketing the snug sack regionally. The snug sack is also popular with quilting project employees who are entitled to purchase them at employee discount prices.

The project will try out a home-based marketing strategy. Wrightson proposed under which a hostess invites friends and family to her home for a 'party' that combines hospitality with sales. Guests see the merchandise displayed and may purchase or order items if they wish. The hostess earns a commission on the sales.

Samira Othman, who manages the quilt making activity, reports that in addition to doubling the income of some of the families, the project is making a contribution to community and family relationships. Women who had never worked for pay before are providing a major share of their family's income, and more women ask for work each week. The women take turns caring for each other's children and working on the quilt project, while other family members assist with household tasks. The embroidery work and the stitching of the quilt pieces is done, to order, by women in their homes. The women then bring the finished quilt top to the project centre where it can be spread flat on large tables and friends can assist one another with stuffing and quilting. In Mahatta the quilt makers have been asked to make a presentation about their work to local school children.

The quilt making project provides part time employment for 50 women in Natheef and for 16 women in Mahatta. In both communities it's easy to see the most important aspect of the project's success,

Teeming refugee camp threatened by major healthcare problems

By Sa'eda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Thousands of families at Baqa'a camp still suffer from lack of basic health provisions. The economic and financial difficulties facing the country, coupled with increasing demand for health services in the teeming refugee camp outside Amman, pose a major problem for authorities to cope with a situation further aggravated by the rapid rise in the shantytown's population. The problem is slowly building, threatening thousands.

Approximately 8 o'clock on any typical day, the line at the medical health centre at Baqa'a camp starts to take shape until it swells to hundreds by 10 o'clock. Noises and children's cries overwhelm the narrow corridors leading to the doctors' rooms, causing a tumultuous uproar.

Outside, hundreds more sit on the rocks' edges waiting for their relatives; some others seize the chance of permanent overflow of patients at the overcrowded centre with its permanent overflow of patients and take the spot as a convenient market to sell the simple stuff they could afford.

The Baqa'a Centre was established by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestinian Refugees and is operated by five doctors, 38 nurses, and one dentist. This limited number of staff provides health services, including maternal and child care, for an average of 1,100 patients every day.

A sub-centre has also been set up by UNRWA in the southern area of the camp due to the perennial overflow of patients at the main centre, but it is obvious that the entire set up is too inadequate to meet the needs of the camp's residents.

The population of the camp is estimated at more than 110,000 of which 67,000 are registered as refugees with UNRWA; meaning that they are entitled to UNRWA medical services.

Despite extensive efforts exerted by UNRWA, the services available are far short of what is the minimum acceptable by any standards, particularly those related to child care and health facilities for pre-



Children watch as rain water and sewage run down the narrow street of the camp due to lack of a proper drainage system (File photo)

gnant women. Mohammad Hassan Waheed, a camp resident who works as a teacher in the Jordan Valley, complains about the functioning and procedures of the present system.

"One Sunday, I took my child to the medical centre, but they refused to accept the case on the grounds that Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays are only for pregnant women. They said children would be attended to only on Saturdays, Mondays and Wednesdays."

"Consequently," he continued, "I took him to a private clinic... and you know how expensive private clinics are."

While the rotation system is clearly aimed at reducing the number of patients at the centre at any given day, Waheed's complaint is that his child was in "miserable condition" and needed emergency treatment, and as such the centre should have standby arrangements for such cases. But, it would appear that the centre, already strained under the burden of the financial and administrative load, is in no position to do so.

Unfortunately, there is no choice for Baqa'a patients who suffer from serious illness or for emergency cases but to go to a hospital at Salt, 38 kilometres from the camp — which is considered as the nearest since there is none at the camp for the time being. Baqa'a is about 20 kilometres north of Amman.

Hopes that the camp will

have its own hospital are in the horizon but initial enthusiasm seems to have waned. The Baqa'a camp zakat committee, sponsored by various private institutions and benevolent contributors, launched a fund-raising campaign for the proposed hospital, but the project is finding little progress because of insufficient financial support.

The project will cost at least JD 100,000," explains Dr. Nabeel Al Jabri at the Charity Medical Centre in Baqa'a camp. "The committee with its inadequate resources is incapable of covering all its expenses, and the completion of the project is dependent upon donors and contributors."

It is expected that another project, sponsored by UNRWA in cooperation with the Common Services Council at Baqa'a camp, to improve hygiene in the camp will soon materialise. The project involves supplying garbage containers around the camp. At present, there are no such provisions, and the refuse collection is carried out by UNRWA's sanitation workers, who lug trash in wheelbarrows from next to the houses and disposing it at open dumping sites; insects and worms carrying infectious diseases from outside to the inner parts of the camp is one of the natural outcomes.

Moving deeper into the camp's inner unpaved roads, one witnesses still another ma-

jor problem; that of the exposed canals of waste water and of the deficiency of drainage inside the camp.

Two years ago, the government extended water pipelines for all houses in the camp; however, more than 30 per cent of them could not afford to pay because of the relatively high JD 60 fees for each installation, according to Mohammad Nseir, a member in Baqa'a's services committee.

The government subsequently extended payment facility; each house could pay JD 10 per month for six months. But even then, the response was minimal, and hundreds of houses are still without water connection.

"UNRWA paid the expenses for 600 families (classified as) hardship cases," according to Mohammad Hassan Amairah, one of UNRWA's school directors. But still the problem continues for thousands of families.

Two women were sitting in one of the camps' narrow and narrow pathways. Asked whether their houses had water connection, one of them let out a big cry. "You are asking about paying for water connection? My condition is what you see..." she wailed, pointing to her vendor's box. It had some dried up biscuits, cheap chocolates and some odds and ends. Behind her was the door to her home; a home with almost nothing inside.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

SUDAN PROTOCOL APPROVED: The cabinet meeting Tuesday, under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mudar Badran, approved the trade protocol signed between Jordan and Sudan. The cabinet also approved the extension of the membership period of the representatives of the government and public institutions at the Jordanian Industrial Estates Corporation (Petra).

QASEM MEETS U.S. GROUP: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem Tuesday met with a group representing the World Affairs Council in the United States. Discussion focused on the Arab-Israeli conflict and other Middle East issues (Petra).

HOUSE MEETINGS: Lower House of Parliament Speaker Saleem Ayar has called members of House committees in charge of public freedoms, citizens rights, education, the occupied territories, the media and rural regions, and environmental health for a meeting Wednesday. They are to elect chairmen and rapporteurs for their respective committees (Petra).

JORDAN-ITALY TOURISM: Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Al Kabarti met in his office Tuesday with Italian Ambassador to Jordan Francesco de Corten to discuss Jordanian-Italian cooperation in tourism and restoration of archaeological sites as well as organising visits to Jordan by Italian tourist groups (Petra).

JORDAN-SAUDI LABOUR TALKS: Minister of Labour Qasem Obaidat Tuesday met Saudi Arabian ambassador to Jordan Sheikh Mohammad Fahd Al Issa and discussed labour-related affairs of concern to Jordan and Saudi Arabia. Discussion focused on the condition of Jordanian workers now employed in Saudi Arabian businesses and organisations (Petra).

Correction

A press release issued by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation was mistakenly quoted by the Jordan Times. The newspaper article Tuesday stated that the Jerash Handicraft Centre was initiated by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation. In fact, the centre has been under the direction of the Jerash Ladies

Benevolent Society, headed by Inaya Khalil, since its establishment five years ago. Since that time also, Catholic Relief Services has been providing training, managerial and capital assistance. The Noor Al Hussein Foundation's marketing assistance began in October, 1988.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arab press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- * An exhibition entitled "They chose 36 poets" at the French Cultural Centre.
- * An art exhibition by Irish artist Conal McIntyre at the British Council.
- * An exhibition of artificial flowers at the Yarmouk University.

PUBLIC MEETING

- * A public meeting in which parliament member Dr. Ahmad Uweidi Al Abboud will address the public on some of the problems that citizens face, at the International Anti Centre — 5:30 p.m.

OBITUARY

With deepest sympathy and great sorrow, I.A.L. staff in Jordan announces the death of their colleague:

James McLean Rae

on New Year's Eve, while on holiday in the United Kingdom.

May his soul rest in peace.

I.A.L. staff Amman - Jordan

Jordan Times

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Cracks in the Israeli hardliners

WITH Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat joining the burgeoning Israeli forces calling for direct talks with the PLO and Minister of Science and Technology, Ezer Weizman persisting in demanding negotiations with the PLO as the only sensible and practical thing to do, wide cracks are already occurring in wall of the Israeli opposition to recognising PLO as the only pragmatic interlocutor left to resolve the Palestinian case. And the fact that Shlomo Lahat is still a very important member of the ruling Likud Party and Ezer Weizman was once a formidable part of the Likud constituency makes their change of views and perspectives on the role of the PLO that much more meaningful and relevant. What Lahat and Weizman and all their silent yet growing supporters are saying is that it is in Israel's interest to negotiate with the party that can deliver the Palestinians and make lasting commitments on their behalf. What value is there in any peace agreement that Israel signs if it is not also signed and ratified by the Palestinian Party which has a mandate to do so, and has won the kind of international recognition and legitimacy to make its signature more than ink on paper. Come to think of it, one would have thought that the Israeli establishment would have insisted on the PLO signature as a sine qua non to accepting any peace treaty with the Arab side.

Meanwhile the Palestinian side must persist in upholding its sense of moderation and refrain from falling into the trap of extremism that some of their constituencies are demanding. The future lies in the hands of the mainstream of the PLO and judging by the increase in the Israeli forces calling for talks with it, there is a growing evidence that the PLO is beginning to harvest the fruits of their centrist stance on the national case of the Palestinian people. There is nothing more Shamir and his extremist supporters would like the mainstream PLO to do than to waver on its commitment to strike a reasonable accommodation with Israel based on legitimacy and justice for all. And there is no more effective way to pull the rug from under all those Israeli forces who are calling for compromise and recognition of the Palestinian nationalism than to betray all the investments already made in the cause of moderation and restraint on the Palestinian side.

The Israeli political establishment may not accept the PLO overnight as the principal interlocutor in the process of peace in the Middle East but it is almost a sure thing that in the near future such a dramatic transformation in the Israeli thinking would occur. The main point for the Palestinians now is to persist and persevere in their determination to wage a policy of moderation in spite of all the temptations to change course in the face of Shamir's stubbornness to meet them half way. The PLO owes it to Israeli leaders like of Lahat and Weizman to stay on course without ever losing faith or confidence that they are now on the right track that would lead them to victory.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily Tuesday said Jordan has succeeded to begin the process of settling its foreign debts to various governments and banks, thanks to the sacrifices of the Jordanian people and their determination to work diligently towards the fulfilment of the heavy commitments. For the past four decades Jordan has been steadfast in the face of Israel's aggression and in confrontation with the various challenges, while at the same time it has been pursuing the course of socio-economic development, the paper noted. It said the country has been helped in its endeavours at all fronts by the rich Arab states of the Gulf, and the Jordanian Armed Forces have been capable of repelling aggression and defending the Arab homeland. For this reason, the paper added, it is hoped that the Gulf Arab states will come to the aid of the Kingdom at a crucial moment as the Jordanians are struggling to maintain the defence of the homeland and to meet their obligation and commitments to other countries. As the representatives of the Jordanian people opening a debate in parliament over the 1990 fiscal budget, Jordanians are looking to their brothers in the Gulf state to rally to the support of the Kingdom and extend all possible assistance which can enable the Jordanian people and their armed forces to stand fast in the face of external dangers.

Al Dussour daily commented on an Arab League meeting in Tunis to assess the impact of the on-going changes in Eastern Europe on the Eastern Bloc's relations with the Arab World. The paper said that the deep changes in the Eastern Bloc are being exploited fully by Israel to serve its own interests, while the Arabs are losing their friends in Eastern Europe one by one. It is indeed a pity to see the Arab still lagging far behind Israel and the rest of the world in interacting with the events in Europe, and failing to take a unified stand that would ensure continued cooperation with Europe at all levels, the paper said. The paper said that the Arabs ought to meet, not at the delegates level, but rather at the summit level so that the Arab heads of state can take serious measures that would shape their countries future relations with other nations. The paper expressed hope that the Tunis meeting will pave the way for a summit meeting in view of the seriousness of the situation in Europe and Israel's efforts to cultivate the events to serve its own interests.

Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily commented on a statement by Algerian President Chadli Benjedid in which he hailed the formation of the three Arab economic groupings — the Arab Cooperation Council, the Maghreb Union and the Gulf Cooperation Council — and called on the Arabs to extend support for the Palestinian uprising. The paper said that since 1948, the Arabs in general and the Palestinian in particular have been listening to such nice words, but without real action to support the Palestinian people under Israeli rule. The paper said that the Algerian president ought to have called for a summit meeting at which the Arab leaders can chart a plan for liberating the occupied territories and restoring the lands of the Palestinian people.

Bulgarian nationalists turn against opposition on Muslim issue

By Kate Dourian
Reuters

SOFIA — Bulgaria's crawl towards democracy has stumbled over the thorny issue of the rights of ethnic Turks who has turned some nationalists against opposition leaders trying to free the country from Communism.

Almost overnight, the mushrooming opposition movement found itself sliding in popularity for supporting a Communist Party decision to restore religious and cultural rights to the country's 1.5 million Muslims.

Since last Monday, thousands of Bulgarians full of nationalist fervour have taken to the streets of Sofia and other cities and towns demanding a referendum on the issue and calling for the government to resign for rejecting this proposal.

For now, the struggle for democracy in this mainly peasant nation of nine million appears forgotten as yesterday's heroes find themselves today's villains.

Constantin Trenchev, leader of the unofficial trade union Podkrepa and tipped for possible leadership in a post-Communist Bulgaria, has been singled out for abuse by nationalists who have branded him a traitor for supporting the Turkish cause.

Yesterday I was crossing the square and they wanted to hang me because they took me for Mr. Trenchev," said Peter Beron, an opposition leader who, like Trenchev, sports a beard.

He was referring to Sofia's parliament square, which over the past week has become the focal point for the anti-Turkish movement and where Podkrepa

supporters and protesters against Turkish rights came to blows during rival rallies last Thursday.

Only last month, the square was a scene of jubilation for ethnic Turks who wept for joy when told they could have their Muslim names back and practise their religion freely after years of repression under a policy of forced assimilation devised and implemented by ousted headline leader Todor Zhivkov.

The country's 200,000 Bulgarian Muslims, or Pomaks, were victims of a similar policy in the 1970s.

But organisers of the anti-Turkish protests, which began in the town of Kurdzhali in the predominantly Turkish populated south east and spread across the country, say they are not opposed to ethnic Turks regaining their rights but reject the way the decision was imposed on the people by the party.

"We are against the decision because it was done in the old way, by diktat, from the Central Committee. We are asking for such issues to be decided in a democratic way," said Stojko Stojanov, a member of a Kurdzhali committee that has led the calls for a referendum.

Ironically it is the unprecedented freedom allowed under the reformist Communist leadership of Peter Mladenov which has let people express their grievances undeterred by police.

Some members of Podkrepa, which last week said it had doubled its membership to 100,000 since the Nov. 10 sacking of Zhivkov, have said they are breaking away from the group because they opposed its pro-Turkish stand.

In an interview with Reuters, Beron conceded the opposition was losing support in the provinces where nationalist sentiment was rife and blamed anti-reformists in the Communist Party who he said were trying to disrupt the democratic process.

"This is a double blow against the opposition and against the reformists within the party," Beron, member of the environmental opposition group Eco-Glasnost, said. "I guess part of the grassroots support is lost but we shall not give in to opportunists and we shall regain our support in time."

The nationalist unrest has sidetracked the already slow pace of reform that has left Bulgaria languishing behind Warsaw Pact allies further down the road to democracy.

Beron, a biologist, said he believed strikes and protests over the rights issue have the blessing of local Communist leaders unwilling to accept a diminished role since Dec. 15 when the party voted to relinquish its automatic right to power and called for free multi-party elections this year.

Andrew Lukanov, one of the young reformists promoted to full membership of the party's ruling politburo after a purge which followed Zhivkov's removal, hinted at some opposition from within, against the ethnic policy.

"We will have to appeal to everybody" to stop picketing around and making cheap politics out of a situation which should be treated by everybody with special



care," he told Reuters last week on his return from a visit to Kurdzhali.

Beron said the anti-reformists had dealt a blow to talks begun last week between the Communist Party and the Union of Demo-

cratic Forces, an umbrella coalition grouping 11 independent organisations including Podkrepa and Eco-Glasnost, to prepare eventual negotiations towards ending one-party rule.

But he added, "I don't think

they can stop the democratic process now. We shall go ahead with the round table and with our demands for democratic changes while insisting that the Muslim population has the same rights as the Bulgarians."

E. German Communists still strong and getting stronger

By Andrew Gumbel
Reuters

EAST BERLIN — East Germany's Communist Party is far from beaten and even seems to be strengthening its grip on power after being brought to its knees in last year's popular uprising, say politicians on both sides of the Berlin Wall.

The party still dominates the government, runs the economy and controls most of the media, prompting fears that it could scrap its pledges for democratic change at any time.

"1989 was the year of peaceful revolution in East Germany, but no-one should delude themselves that the struggle for freedom has already been won. It has only just begun," said Oskar Lafontaine, deputy West German Social Democrat leader.

Leading opposition activist Rolf Henrich has even suggested the Communists might use force to reassert their full authority, turning free elections planned for May into a farce.

But for a party that three months ago penned the people behind barbed wire and concrete and kept watch on them with a web of secret police, the Communists are remarkably popular.

According to opinion polls commissioned on both sides of the Berlin Wall, they command between a quarter and a third of the vote, well ahead of any other political force.

"I believe the polls," said Konrad Weiss, leader of the opposition party Democracy Now. "But much of it has to do with the fact that democratic parties are given no basic facilities to fight the Communists' well-oiled political machine."

Responding to pressure from the highly fragmented opposition and from West German leaders,

the Communists have promised to provide office space in central East Berlin for a six-party democratic alliance formed last week.

"We'll have to see if they keep their word," Weiss said. "But the fact remains the party is too powerful. It still runs the media and state companies. That's how it was in the past and that's how it is now."

In many respects the party, like the country, has changed beyond recognition since its Stalinist leader Erich Honecker fell last October.

"1989 was the year of peaceful revolution in East Germany, but no-one should delude themselves that the struggle for freedom has already been won. It has only just begun," says Oskar Lafontaine, deputy West German Social Democrat leader.

It has breached the Berlin Wall, allowed other parties to share power, agreed to free elections, dismantled the hated Stasi secret police, denounced the old

Stalinist leaders and put many of them behind bars.

Its membership has fallen from 2.2 million to 1.4 million and it has dismissed large numbers of

workers to save money. But politicians say the Communists are still enormously strong and that many of the reforms are not as wide-reaching as they seem.

The East German media delights in revealing the latest detail of corruption or misdeed in the old order but criticism of the new party leaders can scarcely be found.

"For a few weeks the papers were more open, but now they are back to painting Communist propaganda again," one East German journalist said.

The main topic in the news is not the country's creaking economy, nor its precarious politics, but an alleged rise in neo-Fascism that the government calls a major security threat.

Many opposition groups see the massive media attention given to a few hastily investigated incidents as a Communist Party plot to spread fear of change, and as an excuse to revive the Stasi secret police which propped up the Honecker regime.

Henrich and his group New Forum are suspicious of government assurances that the old secret police has no access to weapons. They fear the Communists might set up a similar

security force to intimidate voters in the May 6 elections.

Weiss of Democracy Now is worried not only by a resurgence of the Stasi but also by old hardliners who he said still hold several posts high in government, the media and industry.

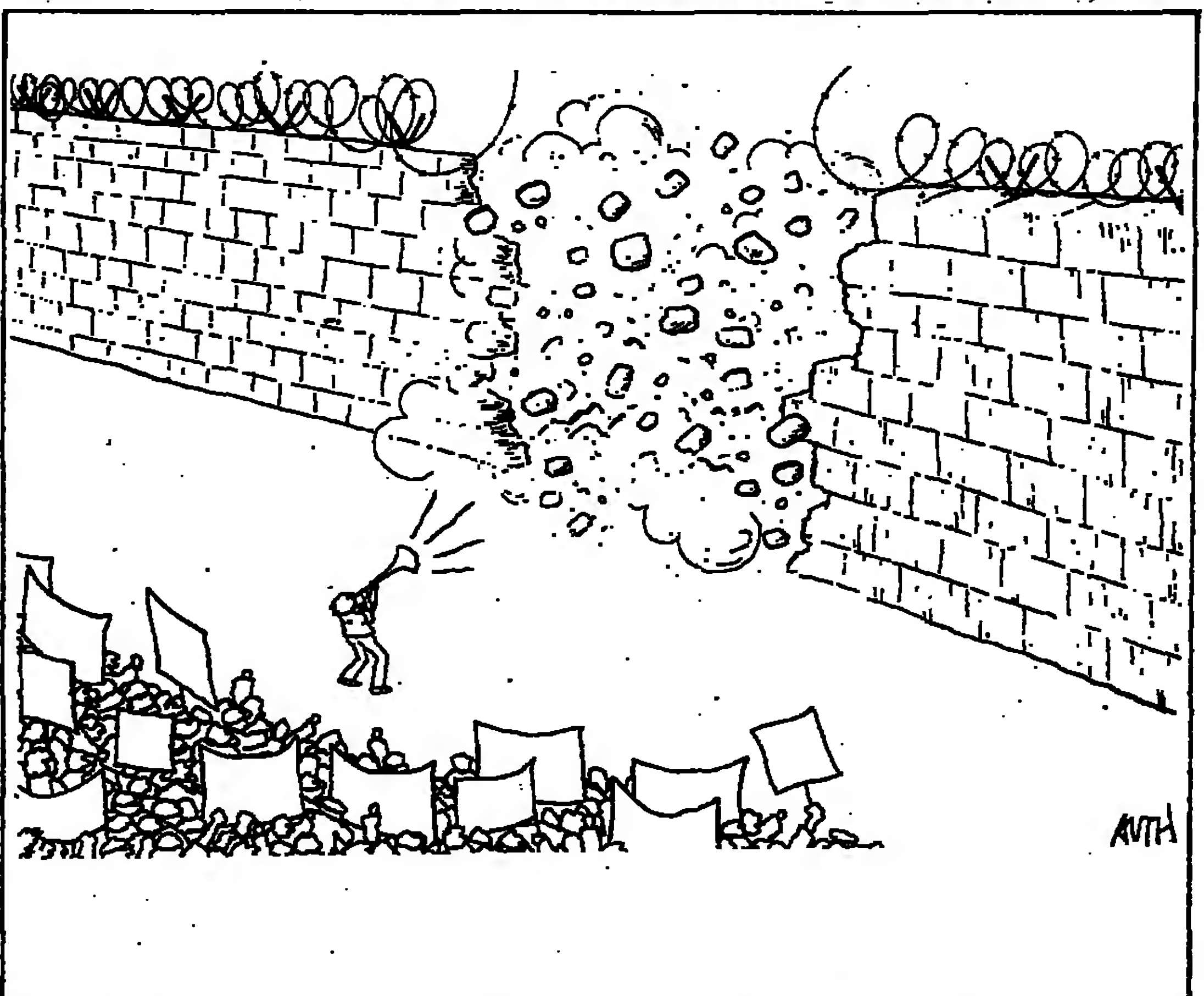
"I don't think the new leaders such as (party chief Gregor) Gysi are responsible for the neo-Nazi scare tactics. It is the old apparatus which still controls the middle ranks," he said.

Weiss and others believe it is vital to push the Communists into opposition in the elections if East Germany is to become a democracy.

"I think the party can really change and that it is in the interests of the country for it to do so. But this is only possible if it is no longer in government," Weiss said.

East German author Lutz Rathenow said any economic rapprochement between West Germany and a Communist-led East Germany would make corruption endemic to the political system.

"We would become the Sicily of a united Germany. And the party would play the role of the mafia, controlling all income and outgoings and taking a cut for itself."



11 years on, Cambodian situation still at stalemate

By Chris Peterson
Reuters

BANGKOK — Eleven years after Vietnamese troops invaded Cambodia, overthrew Pol Pot's feared Khmer Rouge regime and installed a new government under Heng Samrin, the country still endures civil war with little hope of solution.

Vietnam's troops have pulled out, leaving the Phnom Penh government's army, estimated at 60,000 regulars and 100,000 militiamen, to fight the Khmer Rouge and its uneasy non-Communist allies.

Heng Samrin's government was installed on Jan. 7, 1979, and he is now the country's president.

The dry season, which started in early December and lasts until the end of May, saw an expected offensive by the rebels pushing out from their heavily defended bases along the Thai border.

The gem-mining area around Pailin, a nearly deserted township, fell to the Khmer Rouge, while their allies, factions headed by former head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk and veteran Cambodian politician

Son Sann, have grabbed territory further north.

But despite their efforts, the rebels have so far failed to take control of a major population centre, although the provincial capitals of Battambang and Sisophon are threatened.

"Most of the fighting is small-scale, local confrontations," a Western diplomat said. "It's pretty much on the level of AK-47s, rocket grenades and mortars."

"The government's aim seems to be to concentrate on pulling back to hold the main towns. The Khmer Rouge seem pretty free to roam around the area around Pailin, although it's very underpopulated out there."

He said neither side seemed able to make a decisive move and said a long-term military stalemate was expected.

"The Khmer Rouge are strong — some 30,000 of them — but unlike the period just before 1975, they don't have the backing that they had then of north Vietnamese army," he said.

They have no transport, no artillery to speak of. Likewise the government is on its own now with the

Vietnamese withdrawal."

Sukthumbandh Paribatra, a former adviser to Thai Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan, said that he thought the rebels might capture some towns from government forces in the coming months and predicted small-scale fighting further inside the country.

But he added: "I expect continued military stalemate inside Cambodia."

The diplomatic situation also remains deadlocked.

End of year messages from guerrilla leaders, monitored in Bangkok, made it clear that they continue to reject Prime Minister Hun Sen's Dec. 9 plan for a United Nations-enforced peace settlement, which would effectively stop the Khmer Rouge in its tracks and leave the present administration in place pending elections.

The Khmer Rouge, who diplomats say were responsible for more than a million deaths during their four years in power, insist that the Phnom Penh government step down and share power with all factions, an arrangement it says should be monitored by the

United Nations until free and democratic elections are held.

Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge vice president, who makes most of its public pronouncements, stressed that the organisation and its allies had not changed their demands.

"The world is requested to consider this. No party will be allowed to violate any other party and Cambodia will in no way be a threat to other countries," he said in his New Year Message broadcast by Khmer Rouge radio and monitored here.

Son Sann, in his message, repeated his stand that the Vietnamese troop withdrawal was a farce and urged acceptance of the power-sharing plan as well as the immediate reconvening of the Paris peace talks on Cambodia.

Diplomats said Britain's public acceptance of the Vietnamese troop withdrawal and recent Australian diplomatic efforts to seek a United Nations "Namibia-style" solution, although key moves, had not altered the basic intransigence of both sides.

"I sometimes wonder if this isn't where we all were before," a Western diplomat said.

OPEN FORUM

I have a dream

THE unforgettable speech of Martin Luther King in 1964 is still echoing in many parts of the world, reminding and urging the world leaders to listen to millions of voices asking for freedom and human rights.

Approaching the 21st century, many who have been yearning for democracy and liberation for a long time would like to pay tribute to the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, as the world has witnessed the remarkable role played by this international figure, and the courageous steps he took towards reform. He is the force behind the most momentous events of the 1980s; the termination of the cold war, the withdrawal from Afghanistan, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the transformation of governments in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Romania.

As the long suffering East Europe is going to lead a new and better life in the 1990s, there are high hopes that other countries with similar problems as East Europe's, will follow the same steps towards "glasnost" and "perestroika".

Having ended the cold war between the two superpowers and setting up negotiations, regional conflicts will hopefully be solved in the 1990s.

As far as the Middle East is concerned, the most important achievement some months ago, was the cease-fire of the eight-year old Gulf war. But what is still hanging in the air and persisting is the longest conflict — the Palestinian question.

Entering the third year of the uprising, the Palestinians are determined to go on fighting the occupation and drawing the world's attention to their plight, hoping that the international community will eventually put an end to their suffering. Despite the heavy losses, they insist that there will be no turning back to the pre-1967 period.

"The occupation has got some advantages for us," a young Palestinian said. "It has taught us how much freedom, human dignity and democracy are valuable to all nations. There will be no turning back."

As an Arab, I would like to see the end of the Lebanese civil war, and the long-awaited Arab unity and democracy in action in the coming decade.

And as a Palestinian, I have Martin Luther King's dream. It is the dream of seeing the suffering and humiliating occupation ending, and the establishment of the independent Palestinian state. I would like to hear the Palestinian children singing the song Martin Luther King sang in the end of his famous speech, "We are free. We are free. At last."

By Sana Abu Hawaj

Andy Warhol retrospective in Cologne

'All is pretty'

By Greta Zimmermann-Thiel
IN-Press

ONE OF THE MOST important and extensive collections on the history of Pop art is to be currently found at the Ludwig Museum, Cologne. Following the successful debut by American artists at the Biennale in Venice in 1968, Peter Ludwig, an art collector from Aachen, realised the significance of this style and purposefully collected works of this genre from then onwards. Besides works by Robert Rauschenberg, Roy Lichtenstein and Claes Oldenburg, the Cologne-based Ludwig Museum also possesses 39 works from all stages in the artistic development of the undisputed "King of Pop Art," Andy Warhol. The Cologne museum was therefore the logical venue to stage the first major retrospective of Andy Warhol's works — two years after the artist's unexpected death. It was assembled by the New York Museum of Modern Art and is being shown in Cologne only — before moving on to Venice and Paris. It is to be held nowhere else in the Federal Republic of Germany. The exhibition enjoys the status of a homage. Apart from the rooms designated for touring exhibitions, the whole of the lower floor at the Cologne museum

was cleared specially for Warhol. No other contemporary artist has experienced so comparable an honour.

The exhibition starts off with an overview of the artist's early works which are relatively seldom seen. Born as the son of an immigrant Slovak family in 1928, Andrew Warhol had already become one of New York's most successful, young, commercial artists by the 1950s. The development of the connection between art and commerce dates from this time — something which Warhol practised in a masterly fashion as a matter of course at a later date. With his series of 32 Campbell soup cans, he became famous overnight. With the aid of a slide projector, the artist simply painted over the firm's whole range. In the art context of America, this reproduction in painting of commonplace consumer goods almost had the effect of a parody of the then prevailing abstract Expressionist movement. Warhol made a radical break with artistic subjectivity and sensitive inner feeling — such as in the case of Jackson Pollock. Soon afterwards Warhol abandoned the remains of painting technique and switched to the purely technical reproduction of existing photos with the aid of a silk-screen process. It was through him that this technique

became a recognised form of artistic production. It is one of the oddities of Warhol's art that his works, which are devoid of all forms of the "autographical" and lack of any suggestion of a personal style, can be automatically attributed to him as "typically Warhol." He made the absence of all things personal his hallmark; his works do not need an autograph.

Andy Warhol's success stems from his skill in radical simplification. He does not create art worlds of his own: he quotes the commonplace myths of his time and his country. During the turbulent years of the Vietnam war, the civil rights movement and world-wide student unrest, his artistic style, which affirms the "American Way of Life" unconditionally, met with great success. He not only rejects the separation of art and mass culture; he turns the consumer dreams of the masses into images. His list of works reads like a catalogue of the American Dream. His provocative, uncritical message runs: "All is pretty."

The Cologne exhibition is literally brimming with duplicated and coloured-in consumer goods: dollar bills and portraits of film stars. As if people were also consumer products, Andy Warhol monumentalised the stars of his age — Marilyn Monroe,

Elvis Presley, Jacqueline Kennedy — in serialised rows at a time — like dream pictures — which they really were for the general public. Like no other, Warhol was drawn as if by magic to glamour and success. His series of Mao portraits — for which a whole room has been set aside in Cologne — is the clearest proof of the great value he attached to the category of notoriety. Mao becomes a star, transcending all political significance; Marilyn Monroe becomes the icon of female attractiveness, transcending all personal tragedy.

One distracting feature of the Cologne exhibition is the great amount of space devoted to "disaster pictures." As an impassive observer, Warhol reproduced mass-media photos of traffic accidents, airplane crashes and suicides. He did not even shrink from the artistic portrayal of the electric chair as a symbol of his country. His objective eye is honest enough to show the nightmarish aspects of the darker side of the American dream. For reasons of space, the retrospective, taken over from New York, had to be reduced by some 50 works. As a special supplement to this stage of its tour in Cologne, the exhibition is rounded off with several German motifs. As one of the most sought-after artists of the present age, Warhol constantly

accepted commissions. On display are his "cars" for Mercedes variations on the themes of Cologne Cathedral and Ludwig van Beethoven and — fascinated by super kitsch — a garishly-coloured version of Neuschwanstein Castle. All in all, the parade of German symbols.

Andy Warhol succeeded in living his very own American dream of social advancement. He not only painted stars; he also worked carefully on the myth of his own stardom. The success enjoyed by Warhol's art is undoubtedly rooted in the redefinition of the relationship between artist and public. He made a radical break with the concept of elitist art. His art made no attempt to resist superficiality; on the contrary, it sought it as a means to success. His pictures are what they are: they demand neither understanding nor pondering on the purpose of this art. The portrayals of consummate banalities are important as documents of the times. Oriented towards the visual habits of contemporaries, these cult images provide the affirmation which has still not been achieved by any form of avant-garde art movement; uncomplicated and direct access to the public. "I love America, and these pictures represent some of my comments on it."

The major retrospective of Andy Warhol's work will be on show at the Ludwig Museum, Cologne, until Feb. 11, 1990. (Photo: INF/Alfred Koch)

Philippine artists dig for cultural roots

By Jon Miller

BAGUIO CITY, THE PHILIPPINES — On the island of Luzon, some miles north of Manila, lies the highland city of Baguio. Built as a summer retreat by American administrators at the beginning of the century, Baguio is best known for its cool climate, its pine forests and its delicious fruits and vegetables. It could just as well be known as a showcase for the Philippines' perplexing hybrid heritage.

Peopled by Ilocanos and Pangasinans from the north, Pampangans from the central plain, Tagalogs and Visayans from the south, Chinese traders, native Igorot tribespeople and exotic combinations of all of the above, Baguio is a living example of just how difficult it is to put a finger on "Filipino culture."

A group of relative newcomers is trying to come to terms with such a tangled culture, seeking in the process to separate what is good from what is not so good in a country that suffers from a centuries-old — and often crippling — identity crisis. By using native materials and looking to the non-Western rituals and objects of their tribal neighbours, Baguio artists aim to define what they hope will become a uniquely Filipino art.

As a result, this city, with a student-dominated population of about 200,000, is fast becoming one of the centres of creative arts in southeast Asia.

"Beginning in the 1950s, Filipino artists looked to New York for their inspiration," says Santiago Bose, a Baguio-based artist who spent several years in the United States. "Even in the 1960s, when nationalism was in vogue here, our art was still derivative. We still thought the centre of the art world was in New York."

Bose is now working in various media, from native textiles to high-technology building materials, as he tries to respond to the physical, economic and political realities of being an artist in an impoverished Third World country.

A number of others — sculptors, painters, performing artists, filmmakers and musicians — have come to Baguio to explore the same sort of issues. Several have been successful artists in Manila or in foreign countries. There are many obvious attractions here, not the least of which is the climate. The artistic community is still relatively small and is less concerned with earning a reputation and commercial success than its counterpart in the capital.

But while Baguio is undeniably a pleasant place to live and work, most of the artists who come here are asking serious questions. What is Filipino art? How can an avant-garde artist be of use in a developing country? Is it possible to learn from Western culture without being dominated by it? David Baradas, an American-trained anthropologist and president of the Baguio Arts Guild, says that Baguio artists, with their interest in the traditions of the fiercely independent Igorots native to the surrounding Cordillera mountains, are at the cutting edge of a nationwide search for sources of pride and inspiration.

"A country that is very insecure about its cultural identity — which the Philippines is — has nowhere to look for inspiration except in its remaining ethnic

cultures," he says. "They represent for us, in terms of national heritage, the only version of our culture that is untainted by Western influence."

It's ironic, Baradas adds, that many of the tribal artists themselves are embarrassed by their work. "It so happens that the indigenous art of the Cordilleras is of a very high quality," he says. "Some of the native sculptures are being fought over by major museums around the world. But many of the people who create them don't know that. The Christianisation process has built an outlook that makes them put these things down. So they are, trying to hide their art, or throw it away, or reject it."

It's part of a problem that can be traced to the coming of the Spaniards in the 16th century, according to Baradas. Although the Philippines is inescapably Asian (its nearest neighbours are Taiwan and Indonesia), by the 1800s most Filipino art was almost indistinguishable from that of Mexico or Cuba. With the entrance of the Americans at the end of the 19th century, artistic expression strayed even farther from its pre-Christian roots.

Today, if you refuse to acknowledge that portion of the country's heritage that has been preserved, then you are really left with no identity," Baradas says. "Your only choice is this undefined, amorphous tradition that is vaguely international in character. It's an adaptive, at times imitative version of Western culture. Unfortunately, it's the culture of the modern urban Filipino."

Political and aesthetic dissatisfaction with this sort of quasi-Western orientation has led many Baguio artists to look more closely at the world around them. Some of their most interesting work incorporates the landscape

itself, and much of it involves large numbers of people. Performing artists and street theatre are very popular. The crumbling facade of a ruined building on Baguio's main street has been transformed into a stage for often-bizarre artistic "happenings."

This sort of public art meshes well with Filipino traditions, says Santiago Bose. "Filipinos are not as individualistic as, say, the Americans. You'll notice that most of the artwork we have here involves communality, which is essential to maintaining small clans."

"A country that is very insecure about its cultural identity — which the Philippines is — has nowhere to look for inspiration except in its remaining ethnic cultures. They represent for us, in terms of national heritage, the only version of our culture that is untainted by Western influence."

Communality often expresses itself in an emphasis on the artistic process rather than on the product. "In most cases," says Bose, discussing his own work, "the object is secondary. It's the participation and the reaction of the audience that's important."

That approach can lead to some fascinating collaborations. In 1982 Kidlat Tahimik, an internationally known experimental filmmaker who lives in Baguio, made a short film called "Yoyo." In it, an ingenious Filipino fashions a space ship from junk that he finds in his yard and blasts off for the moon. When he arrives, he finds that he can't communicate with the people back on earth.

Bose thought about the astro-

naut's problem, feeling that the film needed a resolution. But what could be done to bridge the communication gap? Building a Philippine "Mission Control Centre" was out of the question. But then he thought about a major Baguio landmark, two huge military communications towers that sit like twin ears on top of a nearby mountain.

In a gesture full of ironic humor, Bose got some friends together and built a matching pair of communications towers on another mountaintop — towers especially designed to receive messages from the stranded

transplanted urbanite now living in Baguio. He recently created a sensation in Manila by building a half-kilometre bamboo labyrinth on the grounds of the Cultural Centre of the Philippines. The design, he says, was based on patterns that Cordillera farmers use in planting their crops.

Another of Villanueva's recent pieces reflects the community theme. On All Saints Day, a Catholic holiday dedicated to remembering the dead, he gathered a large group of friends at downtown Baguio's manmade Burnham Lake. The group built and launched a pair of rafts bearing food and money as an offering to departed souls. Candles were placed in floating coconut shells, lighting the water, and a local musician played a bamboo flute.

It was an invented ritual, combining elements from tribal celebrations in the southern Philippines with mainstream Christian traditions. Villanueva says that the piece itself — titled "Atang Ti Karana" — was ultimately less important than the communal energy that created it. In this sort of art, even poverty can be a creative asset. At the first Baguio Festival of the Arts, staged in November by the Baguio Arts Guild and the Arts Foundation of the Cordilleras, Villanueva was gratified to find the perfect setting for the rafts-and-candles piece: a flooded gallery basement.

Recorded flute music echoed in the dark chamber, and people came in ones and twos to sit on concrete steps and watch the floating candles. It was a fitting and good-humored use of available materials and an effective statement about making art in a place where infrastructure is weak, materials are scarce and creativity itself is a precious resource.

Roberto Villanueva, 42, is a World News Link



Artwork displayed by an association of artists in Baguio, a Philippine city witnessing an unusual search for identity through the arts.

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Jordan Times'
JORDAN MARKET PLACE

Ajax players, managers in alleged tax evasion case

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands (AP) — More than a dozen officials and players of Ajax Amsterdam, one of the Netherlands' most renowned soccer clubs, will have to appear in court in connection with an alleged tax evasion scheme, a prosecutor confirmed here Monday.

The case, into which the Dutch fiscal authorities have been probing for six years, involves the purported overpayment of transfer costs of star players, while their salaries were allegedly downplayed, prosecutor Led de Wit said.

Formal charges are to be filed later this month, according to de Wit.

He refused to identify the players and officials by name, nor would he specify the amount involved.

But newspapers here reported on Monday that the Dutch internal revenue service had estimated that the Amsterdam club owed 4.7 million guilders (\$2.46 million) in taxes on unreported revenue.

The reports said that the prosecution planned to hear former board members Ton Harmsen and Leo Bartels, as well as 11 former players, among them Soeren Lerby, Frank Arnesen, Felix Gasselich, and Henning Jensen.

Court proceedings were expected to begin late in April or early May, weeks before the start of the World Cup tournament in Italy. So far, three Ajax players have been named for the Dutch national side. None of them have been mentioned in connection with the case at issue.

Ajax, 22 times of Netherlands' national champions, rose to the pinnacle of soccer fame when it won the European Champions' Cup three consecutive times in the early 1970s with Johan Cruyff, one of the best forward in Dutch soccer history.

The team ranks second in this season's standings of the Dutch Honor Division, the nation's top soccer league. PSV Eindhoven, which is hunting for its fifth consecutive national title, heads the table.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:**
♠ 72 ♣ KQ95 ♠ AKM2 ♠ AJ
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?
- Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:**
♠ 16 ♠ AQJ1084 ♠ A93 ♠ Q6
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass
What action do you take?
- Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:**
♠ A72 ♠ AQK82 ♠ QK6 ♠ Q5
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 3 ♠ 7
What action do you take?
- Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**
♠ AJ ♠ KJ983 ♠ AKQ ♠ KQ9
What is your opening bid?
- Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:**
♠ 1 ♠ 872 ♠ AKQJ874 ♠ AQJ
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?
- Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:**
♠ 65 ♠ QJ87 ♠ AKQ962
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 3 ♠ 3
What action do you take?

THE Daily Crossword by Frank Garry

ACROSS

- Swiss cheese
- Baron's name
- Two years before the start of the war
- Seahorse
- Far pickup
- Spice
- Debutante
- Son of Zeus
- 2000
- Factor
- Gr. Island
- Ditto
- Poorly done
- Tree
- Artist's education
- Less common
- Diamond
- East of song
- Discontinued
- Source of supply
- 2000
- CSA signature
- War play
- 44 Main course
- End of rope
- Time — half
- Ms. West
- Ballroom
- Crude comedy
- Cut — (diamond)
- "Therapy"
- Gr. Western
- Travelled
- Realized
- Impression
- Tariffed
- Elegant style
- Appointment

DOWN

- Total
- Shore bird
- Star visitor
- Sidling
- Instrument
- Spitzer
- Pituit
- Frolic
- Complice
- For each
- Put on
- Home
- The year's on
- Math point
- Emboss
- USA word
- Served well
- Photo feature
- Lined of "Alice"
- Unusual
- Verbal
- Shore
- 22 All at
- A Beatie
- Boy
- Reactor
- Worn out
- Roundish
- Liz Taylor's husband once
- Gardening
- Unclotted
- Sch. subj.
- Elms output
- Templeton
- Brainhold
- Coin
- 60 Jackson or
- Smith

New Zealand Open:

Guy knocks Mecir out

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (R) — Steve Guy of New Zealand scored the biggest victory of his career when he upset Czechoslovakia's Miloslav Mecir 6-3, 6-3 in the first round of the \$150,000 New Zealand Open tennis tournament.

In another first round match, 21-year-old West German Markus Zöcke came close to dispatching top-seeded Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union.

Mecir, who has not played for a month, struggled to regain his form after badly scraping his foot during an Italian holiday. The Czechoslovak has slipped from

his world number four ranking last year to 25.

Just before going on court, Guy's older brother told him to forget reputations and set his mind on playing a simple game of sound serving and accurate ground strokes.

Guy, ranked 209, did just that. Serving with speed and depth, he refused to a 4-0 lead over Mecir, who last year was runner up to world number one Ivan Lendl in the Australian Masters.

When broken to 30 in the fifth game, Guy steadied and served to 5-2 with beautifully controlled play. After yielding to Mecir's

service, he won the set decisively, losing only one point in the process.

Mecir broke Guy twice in the second set but the New Zealander, who admitted he had played nervously throughout the match, soon broke and thrust on to victory.

Mecir will not be a happy man as he leaves for Melbourne to play the first of the grand slam tournaments, the Australian Open, next week.

"I have not had enough practice," he said. "I think may be I should have practised more."

Zöcke, who just a few weeks ago was dancing to celebrate the breaching of the Berlin Wall in his native city, came close to celebrating even more wildly in his clash against Chesnokov.

Displaying an awesome power on service and off the ground, he went down 7-6 (7-5), 6-7 (4-7) 5-7 to the world number 18 only after a fierce struggle.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY JANUARY 10, 1990
By Thomas S. Pearson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Aspects at the Full Moon today afford you an opportunity to make some long range plans where your future security is concerned. An unexpected journey is a definite possibility.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You will now have new ideas for your home which are extremely good now. Your attachment now will become more of a real partner.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Use an opportunity now that gives you a chance to be helpful to a good friend. If workmen are to make repairs at home, this is the time to do it.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Make as many new friends as possible at this time. A forward looking friend has excellent ideas for you in money or business.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Persons with good helpful ideas will come into your home. You will be able to handle basic expenses with good judgement.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) A trip with your loved one could be very beneficial now. Be temperate in the amount in which you take on added business responsibilities.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Pursue an important financial matter with an interesting new friend. Business persons will be very helpful to you at this time.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You will have to be exact to keep your financial affairs from

being in a muddle. Be sure you have your plumbing in good order at your home.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Calm down business-wise before you attempt to make any judgement. Take some present to your attachment who now has hurt feelings.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Join with both friends and groups to have a pleasant social time. Be with your attachment today as much as you possibly can.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) A new attitude at your home can bring much interest and pleasure. Avoid that trip with friends that would cost considerably.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Try to see friends and acquaintances that have been difficult for you to contact. Entertaining at home requires that you not be preoccupied.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Don't let any of your family change your home or money plans. Adopt a new practical attitude towards your close attachment.

Today's child if your child were born today he or she will want to know all about the value of gold, silver, government certificates, stock, bonds, property, etc. Anything to do with high-finance will be of special interest to this child and they will want to have an education that defines all of the above.

Hopes of joint Olympics in Berlin move closer to reality

BONN (R) — Hopes of staging a historic joint Olympic Games in East and West Berlin, nurtured in the dust and debris of the Berlin Wall, have been boosted by two new important pledges of support.

The city of Hamburg said on Tuesday it was withdrawing its bid to host the 2000 or 2004 games to switch its support to Berlin.

East Germany's National Olympic Committee (NOC) gave official approval to the project at a meeting last week, and West Berlin officials, now want the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to discuss a joint bid at a meeting later this year.

"A dream is coming true — both sides of Berlin will bid together for the games," West German Mayor Walter Momper said.

"We want East Berlin to put together its plans as soon as it can so that both sides of Berlin can

work together with the two Olympic committees to make the plans reality."

Berlin last staged the games in 1936.

Hans-Juergen Kuhn, who heads West Berlin council's Olympic organisation committee, said the two states needed to reach a political agreement on the issue and sharpen their plans before an IOC meeting next September.

"We want the IOC then (in September) to discuss the fact we are prepared to stage the games," Kuhn said. "It is no longer a question of whether Berlin will hold the games but how they will hold them."

The IOC will decide on the venue for the 1996 games at its Tokyo session in September. It is believed to be sympathetic towards the idea of a joint Berlin games, but is not scheduled to decide on the 2000 Olympic venue before 1993.

Hamburg's bid was withdrawn from West Germany's Olympic race, announced by mayor Henning Voscherau, came as a boost to Berlin but a surprise to the rest of West Germany's Olympic candidates.

It recently agreed with rival candidates Frankfurt, Stuttgart and the Ruhr region that they would abandon their plans only when the Berlin bid was certain.

If it is to have any chance of clinching the most prestigious event in sport Berlin will need to build and save money fast.

Early estimates expect the bill for the games to total around 3.75 billion marks (\$2.2 billion), although the bid is sure to attract support from industry and commerce in West Germany, one of the world's strongest economies.

Apart from a solitary West Berlin stadium which holds 3,000, Berlin cannot presently boast any arenas capable of hosting Olympic competition.

Diplomatic drive defuses Commonwealth Games boycott

By David Stamp
Reuter

AUCKLAND, New Zealand — New Zealand, once denounced for sporting ties with South Africa, has defused a boycott threat to the Commonwealth Games with a drive to clean up its international reputation on fighting apartheid.

Only six months ago the Auckland Games faced a repeat of the African-led boycott which ruined the 1986 Edinburgh Games. But now organisers and the government are confident of the biggest turnout in Commonwealth Games history when they open on January 24.

"The success of these games, and it now looks as though they are going to be very well attended ... is safeguarded" by the very extensive diplomatic effort that we've undertaken in the last 18 months," said foreign minister Russell Marshall.

"If anything provocative is now done in the next three weeks I would be extremely surprised if any notice was taken of it," he

told Reuters.

New Zealand has long been the centre of storms about sporting contacts with South Africa, mainly over rugby. The New Zealand All Blacks and the South African Springboks are generally recognised to be the best rugby union teams in the world.

In 1976, 23 African nations boycotted the Montreal Olympics after the International Olympic Committee refused to expel New Zealand for sending the All Blacks to South Africa.

Five years later New Zealand was split when the Springboks paid a return visit. Anti-apartheid protesters fought pitched battles with police and rugby fans during the tour.

Under the Labour government, which came to power in 1984, New Zealand has drastically cut sports ties with South Africa.

But hopes of a full turnout in May when the Organisation of African Unity threatened a boycott over a rugby tour of South Africa by a group of international players, English crick-

eters struck a further blow in July when they announced a rebel series in the republic starting the same day the Auckland Games begin.

Although in both cases British rather than New Zealand sportsmen were involved, Marshall admitted to some anxious moments. "The consideration of some boycott or pressure for the British teams to be thrown out was very much in people's minds."

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's refusal to impose economic sanctions on South Africa sparked a walkout at the Edinburgh Games, with India and Malaysia joining African and Caribbean teams.

With sponsors fleeing the prospect of another debacle, games organisers and the government stepped up the diplomatic campaign. The foreign ministers of Nigeria, Zimbabwe and Zambia visited Auckland while Marshall pushed the New Zealand line at United Nations and Common-

wealth meetings.

Marshall admitted that memories of the 1981 Springbok tour were still fresh in Africa.

But he said that with hindsight a Commonwealth foreign ministers' meeting in Canberra last August had proved the turning point. "There was a general acceptance that any boycott would be detrimental to the Africans themselves, to New Zealand and would only benefit South Africa."

"We didn't want South Africa to win a (public relations) victory," he said. "(A boycott) would prove to the world and to the Commonwealth that South Africa still had the capacity to disrupt an important Commonwealth institution, and that would give them satisfaction."

But not all New Zealanders share Marshall's views. "There's a widespread perception that the New Zealand Labour government has a strong anti-apartheid policy," said John Minto of the campaign group HART (Halt All Racist Tours).

Ordinary Housman poised to glide past the world

By Robert Kitson
Reuter

SYDNEY — The tanned, rugged Aussie battler still tends to be most people's idea of an Australian sporting hero. Then there's Glen Housman.

Housman is a pale, gawky 18-year-old country boy from Queensland who is on the brink of becoming the fastest long-distance swimmer of all time.

He lodges with his elder sister in an obscure suburb of Brisbane and looks as though he would

have problems being served in a pub. In the pool, however, he is anything but ordinary.

Last month in Adelaide he swam the fastest 1,500 metres in history, only to be denied the privilege of breaking a six-year-old world record by a technical hitch.

The International Swimming Federation, world swimming's governing body, refused to ratify Housman's hand-stopped time of 14 minutes 53.59 seconds because the automatic timing equipment failed to register his touch at the

end of the final length.

Legendary Soviet Vladimir Salnikov therefore remains the official record-holder with a time 1.17 seconds slower.

Such a crushing disappointment would have devastated most athletes.

Housman, informed of the bad news in the middle of a hastily-convened press conference, muttered "thanks a lot matey" to the embarrassed official and wandered away without another word. Even the most cynical scribes were impressed.

His response could well come during the Commonwealth Games later this month when the rest of the world is set to discover Australia has found another swimming champion to follow in the wake of Dawn Fraser, Steve Holland and Tracey Wickham.

Auckland will also provide a chance to examine what must be one of the most unusual coaching systems in modern sport.

Housman's 25-year-old coach, Ian Findlay, is a disciple of the

revered Australian swimming guru Laurie Lawrence, whose methods have been described as bordering on the sadistic.

They say you have to be a little bit mad to swim the 1,500 metres in the first place and Lawrence, a former rugby union scrum-half, makes a habit of pushing his charges even closer to the edge.

The story goes that one young swimmer complained he could no longer cope with Lawrence's punishing training routines.

Lawrence went over to a nearby wall, scraped his knuckles down the bricks and then returned to the poolside with blood and torn skin prominent. "That's pain, sonny," he said. "Now let's finish those lengths."

After the record-tying wasn't in Adelaide, Lawrence informed Housman that he was, in his opinion, "a weak little mongrel" because he failed to go out the next day and beat the record again.

NIMIS Management Consultants, the leading Jordanian management consulting company, with 80% of its professional staff consisting of Jordanian nationals, currently needs to fill the following full-time positions in response to our growing consulting business in Jordan and the region:

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Consultant, Marketing

We are in need of an experienced marketing consultant with experience gained either in an international marketing consulting organization, or working as a marketing manager in an international firm for 2-4 years. Candidates will have an MBA degree in marketing from a recognized U.S. or European business school. This position will require the willingness to travel several weeks at a time in the region as well as strong interpersonal, presentation and writing skills.

Candidates for both positions need to be Jordanian citizens, with fluency in Arabic and English; and are expected to show a high level of commitment and motivation, team spirit, and willingness for hard work.

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